Gustavus Atwood

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN

OF THE

TOWN OF CARVER,

FOR THE

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 10, 1876.

TOGETHER WITH THE

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK.

ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 27, 1876.

PLYMOUTH:
AVERY & DOTEN, STEAM BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.
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REPORT OF SELECTMEN.

Citizens of Carver :—

The Selectmen submit their Annual Report of the receipts and expenditures of the Town for the past year, together with such other facts as may be of interest :

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

Thomas Cobb, *Treasurer.*

Dr.

To cash on hand March 10, 1875	$3,688	59
Received on note of E. P. Bumpus	69	51
Town of Middleboro', for schools.	9	41
Town of Plymouth, for schools	9	41
Sale of herrings	1	83
O. E. Bliss, license to peddle	6	00
A. G. Ashley, " "	6	00
Wm. L. Randall, " "	6	00
Geo. B. Fuller, " "	6	00
W. O. Penniman, " "	6	00
State Treasurer, corporation tax	528	06
National Bank tax	490	09
On State Aid account	675	80

To cash received	Mass. School fund	$239 90
	County Treas'r, from dog licenses	98 37
	Robt. F. Shurtleff, rent of Town Farm	25 00
	Town of Wareham, on pauper account	173 84
	City of Springfield, on pauper account	60 00
	Taxes	5,408 39
	Interest on taxes	59 86
Total receipts		$11,568 06

The Treasurer is credited with payments on the several accounts as follows :

Cr.

Paid for	Support of schools	$1,708 68
	Support of poor	1,824 37
	Repairs of highways	1,291 21
	Repairs of bridges	79 33
	State aid to soldiers and families	652 00
	State tax	920 00
	County tax	770 37
	Pay of town officers	461 18
	Clearing the roads from snow	349 03
	Furniture and repairs of school houses	66 01
	Miscellaneous town expenses	96 20
	Abatement on taxes	19 31
Cash on hand March 10, 1876		3,330 37
		$11,568 06

SCHOOLS.

Receipts and expenditures connected with the Town Schools the past year:

Undrawn balance of 1874		$607 93
Appropriation of 1875		1,800 00
From State school fund		239 90
License of dogs		98 37
Town of Middleboro'		9 41
Town of Plymouth		9 41
		$2,765 02
Paid the several schools	$1,708 68	
Balance undrawn	1,056 34	
		$2,765 02

BRIDGES.

Receipts and expenses connected with the repair of bridges the past year:

Balance from appropriation of 1874		$82 78
Appropriation of 1875		150 00
		$232 78
Paid repair of bridges in District No. 4,	$48 40	
" " " " 10,	26 25	
" " " " 13,	4 68	
Balance unexpended	153 45	
		$232 78

HIGHWAYS.

Receipts and expenses connected with the repair of highways the past year:

Balance undrawn, appropriation of 1874		$168 79
Appropriation of 1875		1,300 00
		$1,468 79
Paid Highway District No. 1	$90 37	
" " " 2	67 97	
" " " 3	71 19	
" " " 4	97 42	
" " " 5	90 67	
" " " 6	72 00	
" " " 7	68 98	
" " " 8	70 50	
" " " 9	19 51	
" " " 10	197 18	
" " " 11	118 11	
" " " 12	62 52	
" " " 13	121 82	
" " " 14	63 13	
" " " 15	79 84	
Total amount expended	$1,291 21	
Balance undrawn	177 58	
		$1,468 79

Amount due Highway Districts as follows:

District No. 1		
" " 2		
" " 3	$6 54	
" " 4		
" " 5	8 00	
" " 6	5 18	
" " 7		
" " 8		
" " 9	19 51	
" " 10	91 42	
" " 11	12 19	
" " 12		
" " 13		
" " 14	30 67	
" " 15	4 07	
		$177 58

POOR.

Receipts and expenses connected with the support of Poor the past year:

Appropriation 1875	$1,100 00
Received from Wareham in aid of Hurd family	173 84
Springfield in aid of A. C. Shaw	60 00
Andrew Bumpus on note of E. P. Bumpus	69 51
Rent of Town Farm	25 00
Deficiency	396 02
	$1,824 37

Expense of supporting four at the almshouse	$589 21
Expense of tramps to the town	104 50
Expense of Willard Sears in private family	108 27
Lucy Chace " "	104 00
Foster Shaw " "	76 50
Patience Robbins " "	75 00
Barton Fuller " "	37 00
A. C. Shaw " "	66 25
Chas. B. Witham " "	147 84
Lottie Sears and child in private family	8 69
Emma Bent " "	27 00
Caroline Wrightington " "	44 56
Benjamin Wrightington " "	13 00
Frederic Pratt " "	29 96
Myron G. Benson " "	14 00
Hurd family " "	173 84
Edwin F. Webster in Taunton Lunatic Hospital	199 25
J. A. Peirce in private family	5 50
Total expense of poor	$1,824 37

MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES THE PAST YEAR.

Receipts.

From pedlars' licenses	$30 00
Sale of herrings	1 83
Corporation tax	528 06
National Bank tax	490 09
Interest on taxes	59 86
Deficiency	257 18
	$1,367 02

Expenditures.

Paid Treasurer and Collector's commission 1874	$133 79
Collector's bill, printing, stationery and postage	8 00
Peleg McFarlin, services and fees as Town Clerk, 1874	35 00
Andrew Griffith, services and expenses as Selectman and Overseer of Poor, 1874	45 82
Alvin Perkins, services and expenses as Selectman and Overseer of Poor, 1874	29 75
H. A. Lucas, services and expenses as Selectman and Overseer of Poor, 1874	22 50
E. T. Pratt, services as member of School Committee, 1874	28 95
S. F. McFarlin, services as member of School Committee, 1874	36 12
R. C. Freeman, services as member of School Committee, 1874	32 25
R. M. Dempsey, services as Constable, 1874	10 00
Eli Southworth, services on Herring Committee, 1874	2 00
Ira C. Bent, services on Herring Com'tee, 1875	10 00
Avery & Doten, printing Town Reports, 1874	33 00

Paid Avery & Doten, printing School Reports, 1874	$16 50
A. and B. Wrightington, fighting fire in the woods	8 00
J. W. Atwood, returning deaths	4 30
T. Cobb, " "	75
For ledger and tax books	4 92
Andrew Griffith, assessing taxes, 1875	25 00
H. A. Lucas, " " "	25 00
E. D. Shaw, " " "	25 00
S. F. McFarlin, surveying Town line	1 00
For school books for children unable to pay	3 45
Expressage on books	1 20
District No. 1, clearing highway from snow	22 91
" 2, " " " "	34 20
" 3, " " " "	27 53
" 4, " " " "	25 08
" 5, " " " "	74 77
" 6, " " " "	16 70
" 7, " " " "	19 00
" 8, " " " "	39 94
" 10, " " " "	2 00
" 11, " " " "	5 45
" 12, " " " "	7 00
" 13, " " " "	51 00
" 15, " " " "	23 45
For furniture for the several schools	6 08
For repair of almshouse	15 08
For repairs on school house No. 1	25 35
" " " " 2	1 25
" " " " 3	7 00
" " " " 4	2 00
" " " " 5	22 68
" " " " 6	1 65
Total miscellaneous expenses	$972 42
Transferred from Bank tax to Poor account	394 60
	$1,367 02

STATE AID TO SOLDIERS AND FAMILIES.

Paid Everett T. Manter		$120 00
Daniel Dunham		72 00
Atwood R. Drew		72 00
Mary T. Dunham		48 00
Almira H. Barrows		48 00
Huldah McFarlin		48 00
Nancy L. Pratt		96 00
Caroline W. Pratt		48 00
Guardian to H. I. Atwood		48 00
Wm. W. Pearson		36 00
Abby H. Eddy		16 00
Total paid out during the year		$652 00
Paid on former accounts		737 80
		$1,389 80
Received from State	$631 80	
Still due	758 00	
		$1,389 80

ABATEMENT ON TAXES.

Henry Wrightington, 2d,	tax of	1872	$2 00
Henry White,	"	"	33
Phebe Morse,	"	1873	1 35
Linus A. Shaw,	"	"	2 93
Henry White,	"	"	2 00
Charles H. Atwood,	"	1874	2 00
Heirs of Asa Humphrey,	"	"	2 70
Henry White,	"	"	2 00
Giles Rickard,	"	"	2 00
Harrison D. Morse,	"	"	2 00
Total abatements			$19 31

STATE TAX.

Whole amount assessed as required by Warrant	$920 00
Paid State Treasurer, amount of tax	920 00

COUNTY TAX.

Whole amount assessed as required by Warrant	$770 37
Paid County Treasurer, amount of tax	770 37

LIABILITIES.

The liabilities of the Town are as follows, or nearly so :

Treasurer and Collector's commission, 1875, unpaid	$136 28
Collector's bill for printing, stationery and postage	8 00
Peleg McFarlin, services and fees as Town Clerk, '75,	35 00
Andrew Griffith, services and expenses as one of the Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor, 1875	53 12
H. A. Lucas, services and expenses as one of the Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor, 1875	40 00
E. D. Shaw, services and expenses as one of the Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor, 1875	26 75
R. C. Freeman, services as member of School Committee, 1875	58 85
School appropriation undrawn	1,056 34
Highway appropriation undrawn	177 58
Bridge appropriation undrawn	153 45
Estimated Poor bills unsettled	225 00
All other bills, estimated, unsettled	50 00
Total liabilities	$2,020 07

ASSETS AVAILABLE.

Cash in Treasury, March 10, 1876	$3,330 37
Uncollected taxes on bills of 1872	68
" " 1873	17 18
" " 1874	127 97
" " 1875	1,148 91
Due from State, for aid paid soldiers and families	758 00
on E. P. Bumpus' note, nearly	55 00
from Wareham, on pauper account	35 00
from State, on pauper account, estimated	65 00
Total available assets	$5,538 11

ASSETS NOT AVAILABLE.

Town Farm	$700 00
Personal property in the House	150 00
No. 1 School house and lot	950 00
No. 2 " "	625 00
No. 3 " "	760 00
No. 4 " "	1,000 00
No. 5 " "	950 00
No. 6 " "	700 00
No. 8 " "	800 00
Total assets not available	$6,635 00

AMOUNT RAISED BY TAXATION IN 1875.

State tax	$920 00
County tax	770 37
For Schools	1,800 00
Highways	1,300 00
Bridges	150 00
Poor	705 40
Total amount assessed	$5,645 77

TOWN VALUATION IN 1875.

Real Estate	$353,392
Personal Estate	211,999
Total valuation	$565,391

Rate of taxation—Poll tax, $2.00.
On property, per $1,000, $9.00.

Number Polls taxed	277
Houses taxed	231
Horses taxed	150
Cows taxed	188
Sheep taxed	77
Acres of land taxed	18,192

NAMES, AGES, AND PLACE OF SETTLEMENT

of the Poor, who have been fully or partially supported during the year.

NAMES.	Age—Yrs.	Place of Settlement.	Date of Death.
Sally Dunham,	60	Carver,	Dec. 10, 1875
Sally Denham,	84	"	
Patience Robbins,	70	"	
Edwin F. Webster,	38	"	
Prussia Cole,	79	"	May 27, 1875
Caroline Wrightington,	65	"	
Foster Shaw,	41	"	
Barton Fuller,	26	"	
Willard Sears,	66	"	
Lucy Chace,	77	"	
Arah Hurd,	51	Wareham,	
Frederic A. Pratt,	32	"	
Artemas C. Shaw,	40	Springfield,	
Charles B. Witham,	28	State pauper,	
Benjamin Wrightington,	—	Carver,	
Myron G. Benson,	20	"	
Lottie Sears,	20	"	
Emma Bent,	7	"	

APPROPRIATIONS.

The following appropriations are called for to pay current expenses :

Repairs of highways	$1,300 00
Support of schools	1,500 00
Support of poor	1,600 00
Repair of school houses	200 00
State tax, estimated	800 00
County tax, estimated	800 00

All other income from various sources to be appropriated to pay miscellaneous Town expenses.

To maintain our present financial condition, it will be necessary to assess all the above appropriations, with the exception of about six hundred dollars, which may be transferred from the receipts of bank tax to the poor account, as heretofore.

The appropriation of eleven hundred dollars for support of poor last year proving inadequate to pay expenses (there being a deficiency of four hundred dollars) in that department, we think it necessary to have sixteen hundred dollars the ensuing year.

The Chairman of the School Committee informs us that the appropriation for support of schools may safely be cut down from eighteen hundred dollars last year, to fifteen hundred the present year, inasmuch as we have an unexpended surplus of about eight hundred dollars after paying all expenses of the past school year.

In view of the fact that the school houses will need more repairs for the year to come than usual, we call for a separate appropriation.

The expenses of the poor to our town have increased over the previous year about thirty-five per cent., owing largely to

sickness, and consequently heavy doctors' bills. Two paupers have died the past year, one, Sally Dunham, having been a public charge to us for forty years, and costing not less than five thousand dollars.

One year ago we reported a surplus of upwards of four thousand dollars, which surplus has been reduced to about thirty-five hundred. The reduction can be accounted for from the fact of the deficiency created by the uncalculated increase of cost of the poor over the previous year, and the large expense of clearing the highways from snow, as shown by the deficiency in the account of miscellaneous town expenses, and for which no special provision was made to meet its payment.

TOWN HOUSE.

In our last Report we endeavored to set forth the necessity of some better accommodations for a Town House. Since that time nothing has been developed. Meanwhile it has been hinted that the old one might be bought at a low figure, and repaired at an expense not exceeding one-half of that which it would cost to build anew. Now, we would say that a new Town House is not our idol. We have nothing to force upon the inhabitants of the town. Our office as Selectmen is rather to execute than dictate. Then, in view of enconomy, if the majority of the tax payers think the latter course the best to pursue, we say *amen*. But by all means give us a more suitable place to transact town affairs.

TRAMPS.

During the year two hundred and nine tramps have been provided for at our almshouse, at an expense of fifty cents each, which is an increase over the previous year of one hundred and thirty-seven, or one hundred and ninety per cent.

The Legislature of 1875 passed an act, requiring a certain

amount of labor to be done by vagrants, or tramps, in those towns where they received food and lodging at the public expense, which law has been inoperative with us, and we cannot learn that it has been enforced to any great extent in other towns.

Thus the object sought for has not been obtained, and the great question of "what shall be done with them?" still remains unsolved.

Evidently there are two classes to deal with, one, a small per cent., who are worthy; another, which includes a large majority, who, by their idleness, vicious habits, and acting upon their great principle, "that the world owes them a living," are steadily pursuing their vocation.

We believe in true philanthropy; also that charity has bounds. Then, in view of this exigency, it should not be our aim, not so much to punish them for what they have or have not done in the past, (for virtue and vice have their own reward,) as it is our duty to encourage and protect the *honest, industrious, and frugal citizen*, upon which this constant burden of annoyance and beggary falls.

Undoubtedly at this season of the year, it is difficult to obtain work; and from no act of the present Legislature could we expect immediate relief. But that it is the duty of our legislators to enact a law, founded upon some principle that will check this "world owes me a living" policy, and teach them to be frugal and self-reliant, none can deny.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDREW GRIFFITH,
H. A. LUCAS,
E. D. SHAW,

Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of Poor, of Carver.

TOWN MEETING.

Contents of Warrant for Town Meeting, to be held on Monday, March 27th, inst., at 1 o'clock, P. M. :

1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

2. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

3. To raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be needed to defray Town charges the ensuing year.

4. To determine the manner of repairing highways the ensuing year.

5. To see if the Town will accept the report of the Selectmen, and other officers, and act thereon.

6. To see what pay the Town will vote the Treasurer and Collector, and what time the taxes shall become due, and whether any interest shall be charged on taxes unpaid after a certain date.

7. To see if the Town will vote to make the yards of field drivers Town Pounds, the ensuing year.

8. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to hire money under the direction of the Selectmen, if found necessary, in anticipation of taxes.

9. To see what action the Town will take in regard to repairing school houses.

10. To see what action the Town will take in relation to tramps.

Given under our hands, this thirteenth day of March, A. D. 1876.

ANDREW GRIFFITH,
H. A. LUCAS,
E. D. SHAW,
} *Selectmen of Carver.*

Report of Town Clerk.

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN CARVER IN 1875.

Jan. 27. Harrison G. Cole and Rebecca Richards, both of Carver.

Mar. 25. Nehemiah Swift and Sarah J. Meagher, both of Carver.

April 20. Peleg McFarlin and Eldoretta Thomas, both of Carver.

May 1. Stephen D. Haskins, of Marion, and Ellen L. Eldridge, of Carver.

June 17. Albert F. Atwood and Hannah W. Freeman, both of Carver.

July 3. Isaac W. Shaw, of Carver, and Sarah N. Thomas, of Middleboro'.

18. Austin N. Vaughan, of Carver, and Minnie M. Cooper, of Portland, Oregon.

Sept. 16. Benjamin F. Harlow, of Carver, and Lucy A. Blackwell, of Sandwich.

Oct. 27. Thacher B. Lucas and Phebe F. Chandler, both of Carver.

DEATHS REGISTERED IN CARVER IN 1875.

DATE.	NAMES.	AGE.			DISEASE.	PARENTS.
		Yrs.	Mos	Days.		
Jan'y 8,	Tillson Atwood,	60	10	7	Enlargement of Liver,	Asaph and Polly.
10,	Ann Shurtleff,	41	10		Consumption,	Benjamin and Experience
19,	John E. Pierce,	33			Unknown,	Unknown. [Jefferson.
19,	Lewis W. Savery,	5		3	Consumption,	Benjamin H. and Hattie.
Feb'y 4,	Frank N. Cobb,	1	4		Dropsy,	Joseph F. and Amelia.
9,	John Bumpus,	74			Pneumonia,	John and Mary.
14,	Lysander Cobb,	28			Mumps,	Levi and Mary.
16,	Jesse Murdock,	68	5	5	Dropsy,	Jesse and Susan.
16,	Hannah S. Tillson,	49			Tumor,	Stephen and Ruth.
March 13,	James A. Shurtleff,	17	10	10	Scarletina,	Perez T. and Eliza B.
14,	Cephas Shaw,	77	6		Hernia,	Joseph and Lydia.
26,	Earl Sherman,	52	6	19	Bright's Disease of Kidneys,	Isaac and Zilpha.
May 13,	Alvin Perkins,	71	6		Consumption,	Sampson and Hannah.
27,	Pursie Cole,	79			Dropsy,	Not known.
June 3,	Grace E. Pratt,	20	2		Internal Inflammation,	Joseph and Louisa J.
19,	Thomas Wrightington,	73	5		Inflammation of Kidneys,	Benjamin.
August 2,	William B. Gibbs,	66	10	14	Typhoid Fever,	Joseph.
Sept. 10,	E T. Pratt,	50	3	4	Suicide,	Tillson and Betsey.
15,	Mary A. Cobb,	63	11		Consumption,	Ebenezer and Polly Fuller.
16,	Angelo L. Dunham,	27	3		Consumption,	John and Hannah.
24,	William Henry White,	39	7	22	Typhoid Fever,	Not known.
Oct. 8,	Priscilla C. Shurtleff,	57	8		Consumption,	Joseph and Nancy Standish.
10,	Elkanah Shaw,	73	3		Consumption,	Joseph and Lydia.
Nov. 22,	Diadana Thomas,	15			Typhoid Fever,	John and Mary.
Dec. 1,	Hannah Shurtleff,	56			Pneumonia,	Nathaniel and Hannah.
5,	Sullivan B. Shaw,	68	11		Tumor,	John and Lydia.
10,	Sally Dunham,	60			Broken Limb,	Caleb Dunham.

Whole number of Births, 20; Deaths, 27; Marriages, 9.

PELEG McFARLIN, Town Clerk.